

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The four (4) attached sheets of drawings includes changes to:

Figures 32, 33, 35, and 36.

The legend “Conventional Art” has been added to the four (4) Figures. See discussion in the Remarks section.

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the careful consideration given to the application by the Examiner. By this submission, claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-13, 15-17, 19-24, and 26-32 are currently amended. Claims 1, 6, 10-11, 14, and 18 are canceled, while claims 5 and 25 are as presented in their original form. Claims 2-5, 7-9, 12-13, 15-17, and 19-32 are therefore currently pending.

The Office Action is summarized as follows:

1. Figs. 32-41 have been objected to as failing to designate a legend that indicates that the figures depict "that which is old."
2. Claims 1 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,108,306 issued to Kalkunte et al. (hereinafter "Kalkunte").
3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over a single reference, Kalkunte.
4. Claims 11, 14, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalkunte in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2005/0007952, submitted by Scott
5. Claims 5, 25, 30, and 32 are indicated as allowed. Claims 2-4, 7-10, 12-13, 15-24, and 26-28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Objection to the Drawings

The Action notes that Figs. 32-41 are discussed in the "Background of the Invention" section of the application. However, not all of these referenced figures actually represent known art. Specifically, Figs. 34 and 37-41 depict what might be described as examples of "fact situations," to which either the conventional art or embodiments of the present invention can be applied. Applicants thus respectfully traverse the objection as to Figs 34 and 37-41, and request

withdrawal of the objection. With respect to Figs. 32-33 and 35-36, Applicants have submitted replacement sheets to indicate that these figures depict conventional art. Applicants request withdrawal of the objection to these drawings as well.

Claim Rejections

With respect to claims 1, 6, 11, 14, 29, and 31, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but in order to advance prosecution have canceled claims 1, 6, 11, and 14, and have changed the dependencies of claims 29 and 31 to amended independent claims 2 and 12, respectively, now rewritten in independent form. Thus the rejections of claims 1, 6, 11, and 14 are moot. Claims 29 and 31 are discussed below.

Claim Objections

With respect to claims 10 and 18, cancellation of these claims renders the objections moot.

With respect to claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-13, 15-17, 19-24, and 26-28, Applicants have amended each of these claims so as to be in independent form. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections and solicit a notice of allowance, pursuant to the Action's indications.

As mentioned above, claims 29 and 31 now depend from presumably allowable claims, and are therefore viewed as allowable for at least their dependency on their corresponding independent claims, and/or for the further features claimed therein.

Conclusion

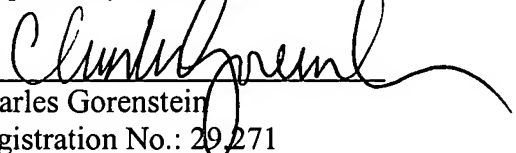
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes each of the pending claims of the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact James M. Alpert, Reg. No. 59.926 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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